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1. (Amended) A permanent magnet motor assembly, comprising:
a stator having a thermally-conductive stator plate;
a rotor having an end proximate the stator plate, the rotor rotating about an axis;
a magnet positioned along a length of the rotor and having a proximal end positioned near the stator; and
a shield covering the proximal end of the magnet to reduce magnetic field leakage between the proximal end of the magnet and the stator plate.

Please **cancel** claims 17-27 without prejudice.

Please **add** the following new claims:

28. (New) A permanent magnet motor assembly, comprising:
a stator;
a rotor having an end proximate the stator, the rotor rotating about an axis;
a magnet positioned along a length of the rotor and having a proximal end positioned near the stator; and
a shield covering the proximal end of the magnet to reduce magnetic field leakage between the proximal end of the magnet and the stator, wherein the shield comprises a cup extending around the proximal end of the magnet and against the rotor.
29. (New) The permanent magnet motor assembly of claim 28, wherein the rotor includes a first rotor section and a second rotor section, the first rotor section being positioned radially inside the second rotor section relative to the axis.
30. (New) The permanent magnet motor assembly of claim 29, wherein the magnet is attached to the second rotor section.
31. (New) A permanent magnet motor assembly, comprising:
a stator;
a rotor having an end proximate the stator, the rotor rotating about an axis;

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a magnet positioned along a length of the rotor and having a proximal end positioned near the stator; and

a shield covering the proximal end of the magnet to reduce magnetic field leakage between the proximal end of the magnet and the stator, wherein the shield comprises a snap-fit ring.

32. (New) The permanent magnet motor assembly of claim 31, wherein the snap-fit ring is made of spring steel.

33. (New) The permanent magnet motor assembly of claim 31, wherein the rotor includes a first rotor section and a second rotor section, the first rotor section being positioned radially inside the second rotor section relative to the axis.

34. (New) The permanent magnet motor assembly of claim 33, wherein the magnet is attached to the second rotor section.

35. (New) A permanent magnet motor assembly, comprising:
a stator;

a rotor having an end proximate the stator, the rotor rotating about an axis, wherein the rotor includes a first rotor section and a second rotor section, the first rotor section being positioned radially inside the second rotor section relative to the axis;

a magnet positioned along a length of the rotor and having a proximal end positioned near the stator; and

a shield covering the proximal end of the magnet to reduce magnetic field leakage between the proximal end of the magnet and the stator.

36. (New) The permanent magnet motor assembly of claim 35, wherein the magnet is attached to the second rotor section.